

assessments on default. This particular proposal has worked in other states. This bill is probably going to be having some additional amendments offered on Select File. The Business and Labor Committee will be holding a hearing on another pooling proposal and after that public hearing is held the bill and the amendments that are going to be offered to that bill at the time of the hearing will probably be offered, will be offered to LB 754, assuming that the bill advances to Select File. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions about this proposal or what the bill...shape the bill will be in on Select File as well. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Abboud. To discuss the advancement of LB 754, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and members, Senator Abboud, would you give a little background on this bill? I totally admit I am not familiar with the reasons why this would be brought. Obviously, we've got present ways of having workmen's' comp so this must be an improved form. Could you give just a little background, please.

SENATOR ABBLOUD: The idea behind pooling is that associations and groups come together if they're involved in similar type of...similar type of job, similar type of employment that's offered, and they see this as a way to reduce their cost in workers' compensation, and that was the purpose of allowing these pools to exist. We have some pooling that has worked well in the state with municipalities and other governmental subdivisions involving insurance and it's a way for these associations to reduce their costs so that they're not put into different types of groups that would increase their cost of workers' compensation. So the philosophy and theme behind the bill is to reduce costs for these associations. It's a voluntary type of program for these associations and it's brought at their request.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein and Senator Abboud. Anyone else for the discussion on LB 754? Senator Abboud, there are no other lights on. You are recognized to close on the advancement.

SENATOR ABBLOUD: I would move the advancement of the bill over to Select File.